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(56) Documents cited
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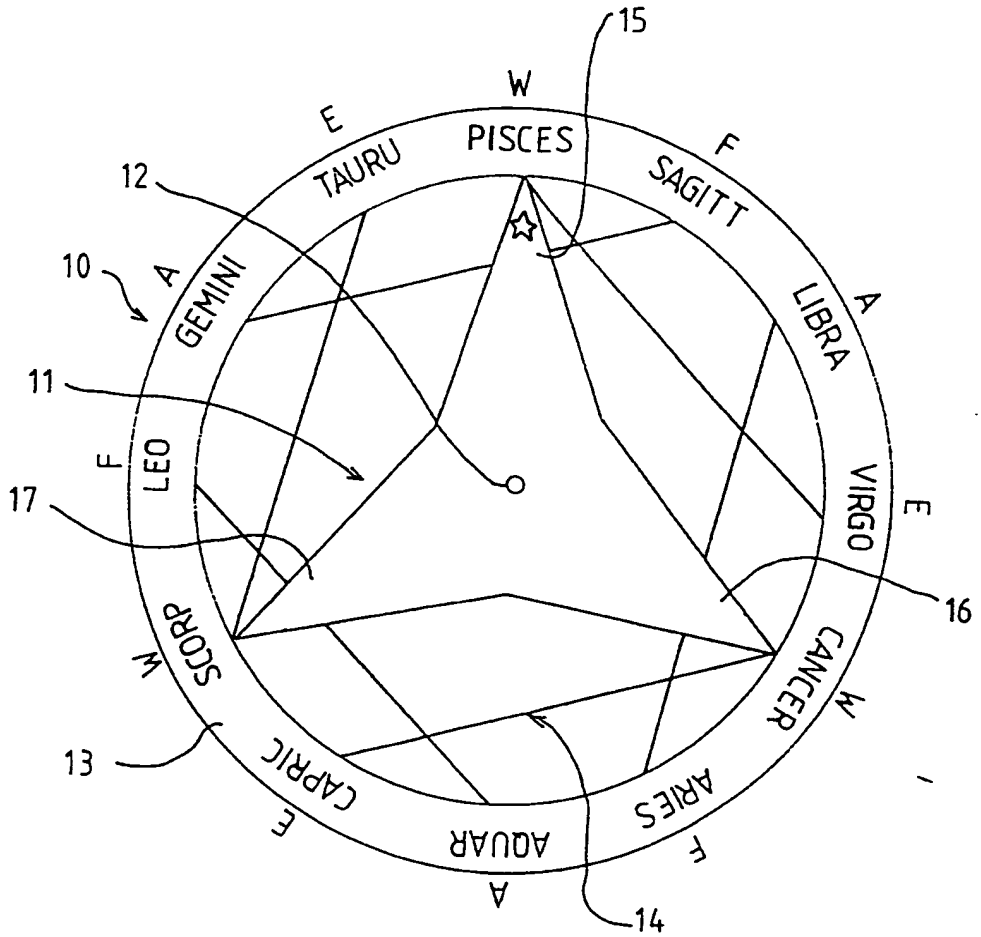
(54) **Indicator**

(57) An indicator comprises a disc (10) having the signs of the zodiac arranged in an array (13) around the periphery of the disc and a three-armed pointer (11) which can turn about the centre of the disc.



At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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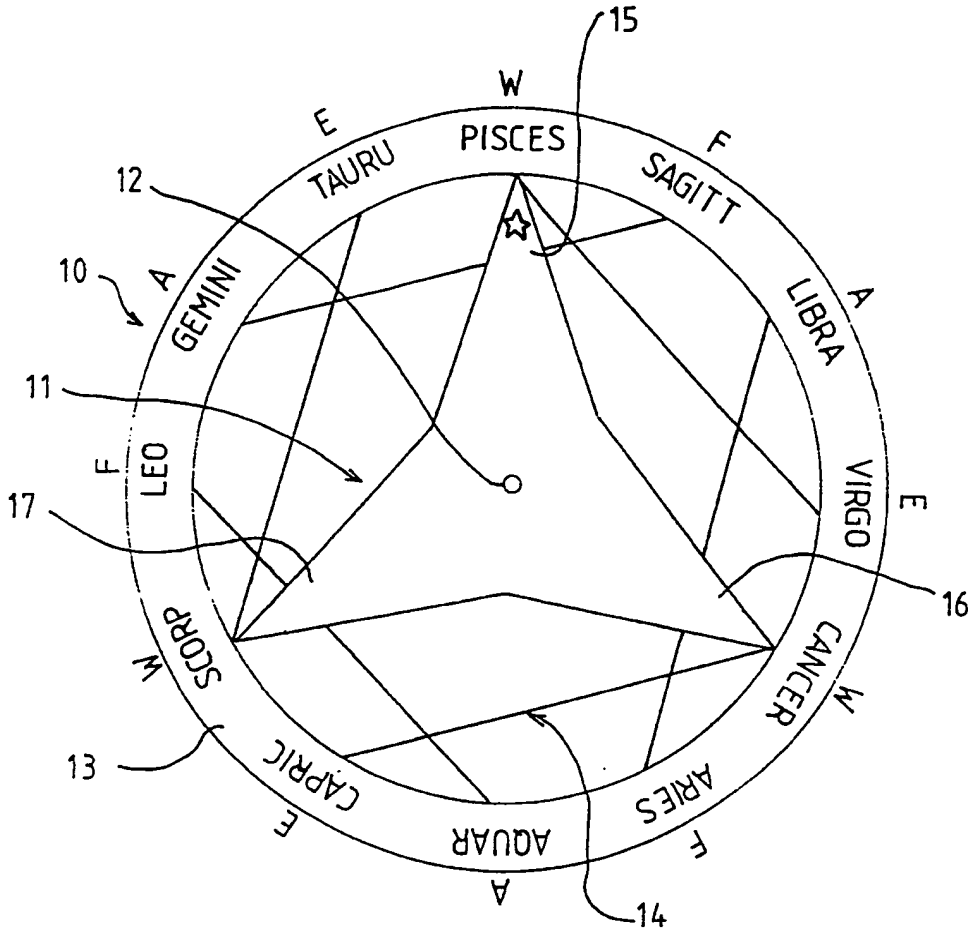

PATENTS ACT 1977

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Title:"Indicator"

Description of Invention

According to the present invention, there is provided an indicator having a circular array of the twelve signs of the zodiac and a member mounted for turning relative to the array about the centre of the array, the member having three portions, each of which is adapted to indicate one of the twelve signs when the other two portions are indicating respective ones of the twelve signs.

The array may comprise the names of the twelve signs of the zodiac and/or pictorial representations of those signs.

The member may be a three-armed pointer or a disc having three windows, through which respective ones of the signs can be viewed.

There may be associated with the array a network which presents six visual links, each link being between the signs of a respective pair of said twelve signs. The network is preferably fixed with respect to the array.

The signs of the array are preferably arranged at a uniform pitch around the centre of the array and said three portions of the member are preferably spaced equally around the centre of the array.

An example of an indicator embodying the invention will now be described, with reference to the accompanying drawing.

The indicator shown in the accompanying drawing comprises a disc 10 and a pointer 11 connected to one another by a bearing 12 which is at the centre of the disc. The bearing provides for turning of the pointer relative to the disc about the centre of the disc. In the example shown, the disc is so formed that it can rest in a stable manner on a flat surface. The bearing protrudes upwardly from the disc so that the pointer is free to turn relative to the disc and relative to the supporting surface. Alternatively, there may be provided a base for engaging the supporting surface, the bearing

connecting the disc with the base so that the disc can turn relative to the base and the pointer being fixed with respect to the base.

The disc 10 bears a circular array 13 of the twelve signs of the zodiac. In the example illustrated, the array is immediately adjacent to the periphery of the disc and the signs are arranged at a uniform pitch around the centre of the disc. By way of example, there is shown in the drawing merely the name of each sign of the zodiac. It will be understood that each name may be accompanied by a pictorial representation of the sign concerned. Alternatively, the names may be omitted and the array 13 may comprise pictorial representations only of the signs. In a case where the disc 10 is formed of metal or of a plastics material, the pictorial representations may be engraved, embossed or moulded in the material of the disc. Alternatively, the pictorial representations and/or the names of the signs may be provided on separately formed elements or on a separately formed ring which are or is attached to the disc.

The disc 10 also bears a network 14 of lines, each of which extends between the two signs of a respective pair of the signs forming the array 13. The network comprises six lines and, as shown in the drawing, these may be rectilinear. The lines are spaced equally from the centre of the disc 10 and the minimum distance between that centre and each line of the network is substantially less than the distance between the array 13 and the centre of the disc.

The pointer 11 comprises three arms 15, 16 and 17 which radiate from the centre of the disc and each of which tapers in a direction away from the centre of the disc. Preferably, each arm terminates in a point or a slightly truncated point. The arms 15, 16 and 17 may be identical one with another and are spaced equally about the centre of the disc. In the preferred indicator, the arm 15 has an appearance different from that of arms 16 and 17, which are of the same appearance. The indicator may be of a size suitable for wearing as jewellery. In this case, a gem may be mounted on the arm 15 to provide a distinctive appearance.

The indicator may comprise means defining twelve positions of the pointer 11 relative to the disc 10, in each of which positions the arms of the pointer are directed towards respective centres of signs comprised by the array 13. this means tending to prevent setting of the pointer in a position in which an arm is directed to a position between a pair of adjacent signs in the array.

The bearing 12 may be in the form of a rivet which is free fit in a central aperture formed in one of the disc 10 and pointer 11 and which is fast with respect to the other of the disc and pointer.

The bearing may be sufficiently stiff to avoid inadvertent turning of the pointer 11 relative to the disc 10, yet sufficiently free to enable the pointer to be moved by hand to a selected position.

The features disclosed in the foregoing description, or the following claims, or the accompanying drawings, expressed in their specific forms or in terms of a means for performing the disclosed function, or a method or process for attaining the disclosed result, as appropriate, may, separately or in any combination of such features, be utilised for realising the invention in diverse forms thereof.

CLAIMS:-

1. An indicator having a circular array of the twelve signs of the zodiac and a member mounted for turning relative to the array about the centre of the array, the member having three portions, each of which is adapted to indicate one of the twelve signs when the other two portions are indicating respective ones of the twelve signs.

2. An indicator according to Claim 1 wherein there is associated with the array a network which presents six visual links, each link being between the signs of a respective pair of said twelve signs.

3. An indicator according to Claim 2 wherein the network is fixed with respect to the array.

4. An indicator according to any preceding Claim wherein the signs are at a uniform pitch around the centre of the array and said three portions are spaced equally around the centre of the array.

5. An indicator substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

6. Any novel feature or novel combination of features disclosed herein or in the accompanying drawing.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

1. An indicator comprising:-
   (a) a base member;
   (b) an indicating member;
   (c) a mount;

the arrangement comprising an array of the twelve signs of the zodiac mounted on the base member, the indicating member being mounted for movement by said mount relative to said base member and having three portions each of which is adapted to indicate one of the twelve signs and the other two portions are indicating respective ones of the twelve signs.

2. An indicator according to Claim 1 wherein said mount comprises a pivotal mount.

3. An indicator according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the array of the twelve signs of the zodiac are arranged in substantially circular form.

4. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the array comprises the names of the twelve signs of the zodiac or an abbreviation thereof.

5. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the array comprises a pictorial representation of the twelve signs of the zodiac.

6. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the member comprises a three armed pointer and wherein the array and the pointer are each of a configuration such that when one arm of the pointer is pointing directly to one sign of the zodiac, the other two pointers each indicate another sign of the zodiac.

7. An indicator according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the member comprises three "windows" each of which is adapted to show respective ones of the zodiac signs.

8. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the array is provided with a network presenting six visual links between the signs

of the zodiac each link being between the signs of a respective pair of said twelve signs.

9. An indicator according to Claim 8 wherein the network is fixed with respect to the array.

10. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the signs are of a uniform pitch around the centre of the array and said three portions of said indicator are spaced equally around the centre of the array.

11. An indicator according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the indicator comprises an item of jewellery and securing means are provided for securing the indicator to a person or clothing worn thereby.

12. An indicator substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

13. An indicator comprising any novel feature or novel combination of features disclosed herein and/or shown in the accompanying drawings.

14. An item of jewellery comprising an indicator as claimed in any one of the preceding claims.

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